

# **IU Northwest Council Meeting Notes**

## **Meeting Held Tuesday, January 12, 2010**

### **I. Environmental Sustainability Presentation**

Professors Julie Peller and Erin Argyilan, and Mr. Tim Kratz, Civil Engineer, presented ideas and concepts with regard to developing a strategy to increase environmental sustainability at IU Northwest and reduce carbon emissions for the campus. IU Northwest would be the first campus in Northwest Indiana to take this step. Students in G185 (Global Environmental Change) conducted the first carbon footprint study of the IU Northwest campus last semester. IU Northwest students are very enthusiastic about the initiative. Carbon footprint is the measure of carbon dioxide or carbon dioxide equivalents produced by a person or location.

Chancellor Bergland feels it will be beneficial for the campus to establish an Office of Environmental Sustainability and to name a director to oversee the following:

- Campus/Physical Plant energy improvements
- Other Environmental Campus Initiatives: example: decrease amount of waste, increase the amount of recycling; transportation options
- Assist the Faculty Organization Green Committee
- Develop and assist student and staff initiatives
- Reach goals to join the American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC)

Dean Wigle suggested that environmental courses be offered by student teachers in K-6 grades. A presentation will be made on this topic at the Faculty Organization Executive Committee meeting on Friday, January 15. Helen Harmon inquired about how telephone books are recycled on campus because they cannot be deposited in the "blue bins." A suggestion was made to place the duties associated with the environmental sustainability office under the auspices of the Facilities Planning Office with oversight by Kathryn Lantz. Chancellor Bergland asked the group to consider working with him on a task force to pursue the initiative. Interested persons should contact Kathy Malone.

### **II. Presentation on General Education (structure, process, principles)**

Drs. Mary Ann Fischer and Cynthia O'Dell provided an update, with handouts, on the current status of General Education and the principles that guide the achievement of excellence in undergraduate education at IU Northwest. The principles, adopted March 24, 2006, describe university level capabilities, knowledge across disciplines, awareness of diversity, and ethics that every graduate of an IU Northwest baccalaureate degree program should attain. The principles embrace learning experiences that prepare students for lifelong learning, ethical practices, successful careers, and effective citizenship.

Additional information regarding General Education is available on their website at <http://www.iun.edu/~genednw/>. The General Education Committee is transitioning to more of an assessment committee. Chancellor Bergland applauded the efforts of the committee and affirmed that their efforts speak to commitment of a quality undergraduate education. Council members voiced support for a national exam to be administered to assess the level of learning from student's first year to final year.

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**III. Update on Development of Lead Measures for 2010**

Vice Chancellor Hodges reported that she is working with Vice Chancellor Malik and Associate Vice Chancellor O'Dell on a uniformed reporting format for lead measures. All lead measures should be submitted to her by January 25.

- a. **Compilation of report** – Chancellor Bergland asked Vice Chancellor Hodges to circulate the report to the Council before the next meeting on February 9. The Council will begin to discuss how lead measures are being pursued.
- b. **Update on Spring Enrollment Figures** – Dr. Hodges reported that the campus is experiencing a substantial enrollment increase.
- c. **Recruitment** – “On the Road” sessions are being discontinued and more campus based activities, involving departments, will be incorporated to recruit students. Staff will visit high schools visited in Fall 2009 to further recruitment efforts.

Chancellor Bergland appreciates the variety of recruitment initiatives being tested and applauded the great ideas.

**IV. Update on Budget Situation**

Marianne Milich announced that the campus has met its financial obligation, as mandated by President McRobbie, for this year, and she is optimistic that we will do the same for next fiscal year. The next step is to prepare for budget construction and budget hearings. Pertinent budget information will be forward as it is received. The budget hearing format will be the same as last year, and the Faculty Organization Budgetary Affairs Committee will be involved in the hearings. Council members cautioned against constructing baseline budgets based on new enrollment figures because of the possibility of enrollment regression. Vice Chancellor Malik responded that the campus is constantly looking to improve the efficiency of the organization to identify cost saving measures and new efforts (enrollment, recruitment, etc.) have increased the overall campus outlook. Discussions are ongoing regarding moving forward with RCM.

When asked about the possibility of a reduction in force, Chancellor Bergland commented that he has already eliminated two administrative positions, and is cautiously optimistic that no additional positions will be lost. All positions that become vacant will be subject to review before being filled.

**V. Update on Facilities**

**Dr. Pellicciotti provided the following updates:**

- **Cleaners at 35<sup>th</sup> and Broadway** – The environmental issues are close to being resolved, and the purchase should be finalized in January. After demolition and paving the campus should realize 30-40 parking spaces.
- **Keyless Entry** – Installations are ongoing. The committee will provide recommendations to Chancellor Bergland regarding access, and the system should be operational within the next two weeks.

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- **Classroom Furniture Replacement** – Project is moving forward. If the campus moves from tablet arm chairs to tables, room capacity will be lost. The committee is putting together the best possible arrangement for classroom tables and chairs.
- **Space at the Village Shopping Center** – A verbal commitment has been received for additional space beyond the original space considered, but a lease has not been signed. The committee is considering how space will be allocated and is examining security and infrastructure issues.
- **Parking Study** – The report from the Parking Study Committee was received by the Facilities Planning Committee during the week of November 30, 2009. Modifications will be made to the report before submitting it to Chancellor Bergland.
- **Dena's Pub** – Deliberations are ongoing. The university is waiting for a design plan from the Gary Transportation Corporation.

In response to an inquiry regarding the availability of parking as a result of the enrollment increase, Dr. Pellicciotti responded that the Parking Study, which is on the web, provides suggestions to alleviate parking issues. Some initiatives considered include enhancing environmental sustainability through parking improvements, using shuttle services to utilize parking areas at the Village Shopping Center, and examining when classes are offered and how to better plan when students are on campus.

**VI. Update on AQIP/Continuous Improvement**

Dr. Delunas reminded the group that new action projects should be considered because General Education, Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness have already run their course and should be retired. She suggested Sustainability and Degree Audit as possible projects to pursue. Ideas should be forwarded to Dr. Delunas or Dr. O'Dell.

**VII. Other Information**

- Dr. George Bodmer is back on campus after being injured crossing Broadway in November.
- Dean Rominger has been notified of granted maintenance of the AACSB Accreditation without reservation, and the Assessment Center was cited for best practices.
- Dr. Reed announced that the IU Northwest Chapter of The National Society of Leadership and Success will host a speaker broadcast on February 23, 2010 featuring Dr. Bertice Berry, a renowned comedian, sociologist and bestselling author. The event will be held in Raintree 102 and is open to the campus and Northwest Indiana community.